OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: GOVERNOR

FROM: RILEY

SUBJECT: ETHICS ADVICE REGARDING NAGB SERVICE

DATE 2/28/01

CC: SIMMONS

PROSPERE FILE

Please see the attached memo from attorney Susan Erdeky, Ethics Division of the US Department of Education.

Federal statute prohibits NAGB members from participating in NAGB matters in which they have a financial interest. However, federal law also allows a waiver to members when their interest in a matter is not so substantial as to affect the integrity of the member's services. According to the memo, you have been granted a waiver to participate in NAGB matters that affect all states in a comparable manner, but not in those matters that specifically affect Mississippi or the SREB and its member states (due to your serving on SREB's Executive Committee).